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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: February 17, 1959

SUBJECT: Military Assistance to Libya

PARTICIPANTS: Mr. Willie Morris, 1st Secretary, British Embassy

David G. Nes, AF

COPIES TO: AFN Benghazi
OSD/ISA

Mr. Morris called to report that in the wake of the British Defense Minister's recent visit to Libya, Her Majesty's Government contemplated a gift package of arms to Libya which would include fifty trucks, seventeen 35-pounder anti-tank guns and one light aircraft. Since these items of equipment seem to be within the "heavy" category for which the U.S. Government was responsible, he wished to know whether there would be any objection to proceed with the gift package.

Mr. Nes said he would wish to review the matter with Defense and others in the Department but would endeavor to provide the U.S. Government's views within a day or two.

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